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Please add the following new claims:

- A29
61. (New) The method of claim 1 comprising routing the SS7 message to its intended destination.
 62. (New) The presence registration and routing node of claim 22 wherein the communication module is adapted to route the SS7 message to its intended destination.
 63. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony related action comprises activation of the end user's mobile telephone and wherein the presence information indicates that the end user is currently reachable to receive messaging protocol communications via the end user's mobile telephone.
 64. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony related action comprises entering a predetermined code via the end user's wireline telephone and wherein the presence information indicates that the end user is currently reachable via the end user's wireline telephone.

REMARKS

Status Summary

In this Amendment, no claims are cancelled, and claims 61-64 are added. Therefore, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-64 will be pending.

Examiner Interview

Applicants greatly appreciate the Examiner Interview granted them on January 30, 2003. The amendments above and the remarks below are consistent with the discussion in the Examiner Interview.

Information Disclosure Statement

In the Official Action, the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 4, 2000 was objected to as failing to provide a legible copy of each U.S. and Foreign patent or publication. Our records indicate that the Information Disclosure Statement filed on December 4, 2000 included copies of each patent or publication cited in the

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Information Disclosure Statement. In addition, we received a stamped return-receipt from the mail room at the United States Patent and Trademark Office indicating that copies of the seven references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement were received by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. A copy of the Information Disclosure Statement, the stamped return-receipt postcard, and the cited references are attached hereto. Consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4, 6-22, 24-28, 30-34, and 39-41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,453,034 to Donovan et al. (hereinafter, "Donovan") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,252,952 to Kung et al. (hereinafter, "Kung"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Present Invention

Independent claims and 1 and 22 have been amended to recite methods and systems for automatically generating presence registration messages based on SS7 messages. For example, claim 1 recites that an SS7 message is received in response to a telephony related action performed by an end user. Based on the SS7 message, it is determined whether presence registration processing is required for the end user. In response to determining the presence registration processing is required for the end user, a presence registration message is automatically generated. The presence registration message includes presence information indicating to other end users a communications medium for contacting the end user using a messaging protocol and indicating that the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol communications via the communications medium.

One example of this type of automatic presence registration is illustrated in Figure 8 of the present application. In Figure 8, when an end user activates his or her mobile telephone, an SS7 message is generated. Based on the SS7 message, the presence registration and routing node of the present invention automatically

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generates a presence registration message indicating that the end user is current available to receive messaging protocol communications via his or her mobile telephone. In Figure 9, a similar registration action is performed based on SS7 messages relating to wireline telephone calls. Automatically generating presence registration information indicating the appropriate communications medium for contacting a user and that the user is currently available to receive messaging protocol communications via the communications medium facilitates the distribution of messaging protocol communications. For example, a user is no longer required to manually register his or her presence registration information in a presence database. Similar amendments have been made to independent claims 11 and 35 to clarify the meaning of presence registration.

The Cited References

As explained in the Examiner Interview, Donovan teaches using SIP messages only to establish VPN calls over an IP network. Enterprise gateway 55 illustrated in Figure 1 of Donovan merely converts SS7 call setup messages to SIP messages and vice versa. For example, Donovan states:

PBX 51 sends a normal setup message with the dialed digits 7774321 to EG 55. EG 55 performs a protocol translation and formulates a SIP INVITE message of the form:

INVITE:7774321@xyzus.com
From:5551234@xyzmalasia.com
To:7774321@xyzs.com (See column 3, lines 38-45 of
Donovan)

Based on this passage, Donovan teaches the conventional use of the SS7 and SIP protocols for call setup and teaches nothing about registering presence information specifying a communications medium for contacting an end user and that the user is currently available via the communications medium. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that Donovan fails to teach or even remotely suggest the claimed invention.

Kung likewise fails to teach or suggest automatically generating presence registration messages or routing such messages, where the messages include

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contact information indicating a communications medium for contacting an end user via a messaging protocol and that the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages via the communications medium. Kung was discussed extensively in the Examiner Interview. In particular, the Patent Examiner contended that Kung's teaching of the functions of call manager 218 beginning at column 10, line 54 rendered the claimed invention obvious. The referenced portion of Kung states:

The call manager 218 may incorporate one or more databases. For example, the call manager 218 may include database information such as (1) a resources database that provides an identification of what resources are connected to broadband network one and their current state...(See column 10, lines 54-59 of Kung)

Applicants have specifically amended the claims to recite that the present invention automatically generates presence registration information that indicates a current communications medium for contacting an end user using a messaging protocol and that the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol communications via the messaging protocol. The resources database in the call manager of Kung merely stores information about other signaling nodes connected to broadband network 1. Examples of signaling nodes disclosed in Kung are signaling gateway 234, accounting gateway 240, element management gateway 238, voice gateway 232, and media gateway 230. (See column 10, lines 36-39 of Kung). These are the "resources" with which call manager 218 may interact and store connection and state information. There is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Kung that call manager 218 routes or automatically generates presence registration messages indicating the communication medium over which an end user can be contacted and whether the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol communications via that communication medium.

The remaining discussion in the Examiner Interview focused on Kung's disclosure of closed user groups. As noted by the Examiner in the Examiner Interview, Kung teaches that membership in the closed user group may be dynamically defined. However, there is no mechanism taught in Kung for

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automatically generating or routing messages including presence information indicating a communication medium for contacting an end user via a messaging protocol and whether the end user is currently available via the communications medium to receive messaging protocol messages or for distributing such presence information between the members of the closed user group. In contrast, Kung teaches as follows:

In operation, and referring to Figure 7, a first member (referred to herein as "member A") of a CUG may call a second member (referred to herein as "member B") of the same CUG (step 701) member A may dial the DN of member B, just as any other telephony user would. (Emphasis added) (See column 31, lines 53-57 of Kung.)

Thus, rather than using dynamically generated presence information, Kung teaches that end users contact other users by knowing their static directory numbers. There is absolutely no teaching or suggestion in Kung that one end user will know that another end user is available at the directory number. In contrast, registering presence information according to the present invention indicates not only the communications medium for contacting the end user, but also that the end user is available for receiving messaging protocol communications via the communications medium. The fact that Kung teaches that membership in a closed user group can be defined or dynamically changed is irrelevant to the current communications medium for sending messaging protocol communications to the user and whether the user is available via the communications medium. Thus, for these reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of the claims as unpatentable over Donovan in view of Kung be withdrawn.

Return of Examiner's Copy of Kung

In addition, Applicants inadvertently obtained a copy of Kung in the Examiner Interview that appears to be the Examiner's copy because it contains pencil markings corresponding to the portions of Kung cited by the Examiner. That copy is being returned with this response. Applicants apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.

Rejection Based on Kung, Donovan, and Miller

Claims 5, 23, and 35-38 were rejected as unpatentable over Donovan in view of Kung and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,324,183 to Miller et al. (hereinafter, "Miller"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As a preliminary matter, Miller is not a proper reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because it was commonly owned with the present application at the time the invention was made. Thus, Miller does not qualify as a prior art reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Moreover, even assuming for the sake of argument that Miller is a proper reference under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as stated above, the claims of the present application recite methods and routing nodes for automatically generating or routing messages that include presence information indicating a communications medium contacting an end user and whether the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages using the communications medium. As indicated above, neither Donovan nor Kung teaches the invention as claimed. Miller likewise lacks such disclosure. Miller is directed to methods and systems for transmitting and receiving SS7 messages over an IP network using signal transfer points. There is no disclosure in Miller of transmitting or receiving presence information. Thus, for all the reasons stated above, the rejection of the claims as unpatentable over Donovan in view of Kung and further in view of Miller should be withdrawn.

Allowable Claims

Claim 29 was only objected to. Claim 29 is rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that claim 29 be allowed.

Claims 42-60 are allowed.

Amendments to the Specification

Clarifying amendments are made to the specification to improve its form. The clarifying amendments do not add any new matter.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments and remarks above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance. If any small matter should remain outstanding after the Patent Examiner has had an opportunity to review the above Remarks, the Patent Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned patent attorney in order to resolve these matters and avoid the issuance of another Official Action.

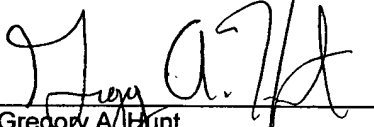
Although no fee is believed to be due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with the filing of this correspondence to Deposit Account No. 50-0426.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at page 3, line 5, has been amended as follows:

--In the peer-to-peer approach, a central server maintains a database of online subscribers and their associated Internet Protocol addresses. After a subscriber logs in, such a server sends the subscriber the IP addresses of everyone on [their] the subscriber's contact list who is also currently logged on.-- /

The paragraph beginning at page 4, line 4, has been amended as follows:

--An entity has control over publication of its presence information. An entity is defined as the unit, [e.g. a] e.g., the person, on whose behalf presence information is being maintained. Each entity has a unique handle. The identity of the presence server maintaining presence information for the entity can be determined from the handle. A handle is well known name for an entity. An example of a handle is pp://www.intercom.att.com/TyrantRana. Finally, a point of presence (PoP) is defined as a point of presence for an entity. If an entity is present, it is connected to one PoP. Each PoP has an address, e.g., an IP address and a port number, at which presence messages may be delivered.-- /

The paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, has been amended as follows:

--There are currently models, including the models described above, that provide for instant messaging (IM) and presence services within the scope of an Internet Protocol / data network environment. It will be appreciated from the discussion above that one of the key elements of IM operation involves the ability for one subscriber to "know" when another subscriber is logged in or is "available." From the discussion above, it will also be appreciated that the ability to track the login status, otherwise known as "presence," of Internet users is fairly well developed and widely practiced. However, as communication networking technology has continued to evolve at a rapid pace, so have the means by which end users or subscribers can communicate. More particularly, the explosive growth of hand-held, wireless communication terminals, such as cell phones, wireless [WEB] Web phones, and personal digital assistants has led to a demand for inter-networking or inter-medium

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communication solutions. In other words, it is rapidly becoming useful for a subscriber to have [their] his or her wireless phone status or "presence" known to other subscribers, where these other subscribers may be using a variety of communication mediums, such as wireless phone service, wired phone service, short message service (SMS), or Internet service.--

The paragraph beginning at page 7, line 20, has been amended as follows:

--According to another aspect, a presence registration and routing node includes an advanced database communications module (ADCM) for receiving queries for presence information. The ADCM module forwards the queries to a presence application, such as a SIP, IMPP, or presence application. The presence application formulates a presence-server-compatible message, forwards the presence-server-compatible message to a presence database, receives a response from the database, [an] and forwards the response to the ADCM module to be sent to the requestor over an IP network. The presence database may be internal or external to the presence registration and routing node.--

The paragraph beginning at page 9, line 23, has been amended as follows:

--Figures [5a and 5b] 5(A) and 5(B) are a flow chart illustrating exemplary steps that may be performed by a presence registration and routing node in processing an IAM message according to an embodiment of the present invention;--

The paragraph beginning at page 10, line 22, has been amended as follows:

--Figure 13 is a block diagram of a presence registration and routing node including an external presence database according to an embodiment of the present invention[.];--

The paragraph beginning at page 13, line 16, has been amended as follows:

--Shown in Figure 3 is a schematic diagram of a presence registration and routing node **300** of the present invention. It will be appreciated that presence registration and routing node **300** includes a high speed Interprocessor Message Transport (IMT) communications bus **310**. Communicatively coupled to IMT bus **310** are a number of distributed processing modules or cards including[;] a pair of Maintenance and Administration Subsystem Processors (MASPs) **312**, an SS7

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capable Link Interface Module (LIM) 320, an IP capable Advanced Database Communication Module (ADCM) 360, and a Presence Registration Module (PRM) 340. These modules are physically connected to the IMT bus 310 such that signaling and other type messages may be routed internally between all active cards or modules. For simplicity of illustration, only a single LIM 320, ADCM 360, and PRM 340 are included in Figure 3. However, it should be appreciated that the distributed, multi-processor architecture of the presence registration and routing node 300 facilitates the deployment of multiple LIM, ADCM, PRM, and other cards, all of which could be simultaneously connected to the IMT bus 310.--

The paragraph beginning at page 14, line 16, has been amended as follows:

--Focusing now on LIM card functionality, it will be appreciated that LIM 320 is comprised of a number of sub-component processes including, but not limited to[;], an SS7 MTP level 1 process 322, an SS7 MTP level 2 process 324, an I/O buffer or queue 325, a gateway screening (GWS) process 326, a Presence Registration Request (PRR) stop action process 328, an SS7 MTP level 3 layer HMDC process 330, and an HMDT process 332. MTP level 1 and 2 processes 322 and 324, respectively, provide the facilities necessary to send and receive digital data over a particular physical media / physical interface, as well as to provide error detection / correction and sequenced delivery of all SS7 message packets. I/O queue 325 provides for temporary buffering of incoming and outgoing signaling message packets. GWS process 326 is responsible for examining the incoming signaling message and determining which, if any, of the provisioned stop actions are applicable. PRR stop action process 328 is responsible for making a copy of[,] and subsequently encapsulating[,] an incoming SS7 ISDN User Part (ISUP) IAM signaling message packet within an SS7 Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) formatted packet. It should be appreciated that PRR stop action process 328 could also be configured to simply encapsulate the original incoming SS7 ISUP IAM signaling message, without making a copy. MTP level 3 HMDC process 330 receives signaling messages from the lower processing layers and performs a discrimination function, effectively determining whether an incoming SS7 message packet requires

internal processing or is simply to be through switched. For instance, in the case of an SS7 TCAP message associated with presence registration or an SCCP encapsulated ISUP IAM message, HMDC process 330 would determine that the message should be internally routed for further processing. [The] HMDT process 332 manages or directs the internal routing of SS7 message packets that require additional processing prior to final routing. Once again, it should be appreciated that a LIM card may contain more functional processes than those described above. The above discussion is limited to LIM functionality associated with the basic processing of in-bound signaling messages.--

The paragraph beginning at page 16, line 15, has been amended as follows:

--In general, a PRM card includes the database and database control processes necessary to achieve the presence registration message generation and routing functionality of the present invention. The PRM 340 shown in Figure 3 is comprised, in part, of an SCCP subsystem controller known as a Signaling Connection Routing Controller (SCRC) process 342, a Presence Registration Manager (PRMG) process 344, and a number of Presence Registration Applications generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 346. Included among the [Presence Registration Applications] presence registration applications is a session initiation protocol (SIP) registration application process 348 for generating SIP messages, forwarding the SIP messages to a presence server, and processing SIP messages received from the presence server. The format for SIP messages is described in detail in the above-referenced RFC 2543, which defines the SIP protocol. In addition, the portion of a SIP message that carries the media capabilities information for an end user device is referred to as the session description protocol portion. The session description protocol is described in detail in RFC 2327, "SDP: Session Description Protocol," (April 1998), the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--

The paragraph beginning at page 18, line 1, has been amended as follows:

--[The] SCRC process 342 is responsible for discrimination of signaling messages at the SCCP level, and for distributing the signaling messages to an

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appropriate higher processing level application or function. In the configuration shown in Figure 3, the next highest processing level is represented by [the] PRMG process **344**. PRMG process **344** is responsible for determining how to process the incoming message packet. For instance, if the message packet contains an SCCP encapsulated ISUP IAM message, PRMG process **344** is configured to de-capsulate the original ISUP IAM message[,] and subsequently extract the appropriate information necessary for further processing from the de-capsulated message. However, if the incoming message were a TCAP formatted packet, no de-capsulation action would be required. In either case, PRMG process **344** is also charged with determining which of the provisioned presence registration applications is required for successful processing of a particular incoming signaling message packet. As will be appreciated from Figure 3, a number of presence registration applications may be simultaneously provisioned on a single PRMG card. These presence registration applications may be configured such that each application is capable of generating presence registration messages that are formatted in different protocols including, but not limited to, SIP, IMPP, and presence protocol.--

The paragraph beginning at page 19, line 17, has been amended as follows:

--Referring to Figure [5a] 5(A), in step **ST1**, an incoming ISUP IAM message is received at [the] inbound LIM module **320**. In steps **ST2** and **ST3**, the incoming ISUP IAM message is received and processed by the MTP Level 1 and 2 processes **322** and **324**, respectively. With MTP Level 1 and 2 processing complete, the signaling message packet is temporarily buffered in the I/O queue **325** before being passed up the stack to the MTP Level 3 Gateway Screening (GWS) process **326**. As indicated in step **ST4**, GWS process **326** examines the incoming ISUP IAM message and determines not only whether the message is to be allowed into the switch for further processing, but also which, if any, of the provisioned stop actions are applicable to the incoming message. In this example, GWS process **326** examines the incoming ISUP IAM message and determines that the message is permitted to enter the switch. Furthermore, upon examination of the Originating Point Code (OPC), Destination Point Code (DPC) and Service Indicator Octet (SIO) fields contained in

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the MTP routing layer, it is determined that the message requires additional processing by the PRR stop action **328 (ST5)**. In [steps] step ST6 PRR stop action process **328** receives the ISUP IAM message from GWS process **326** and determines that the incoming message is an ISUP type MSU. The PRR stop action process **328** next checks the DPC of the incoming MSU. More specifically, the PRR stop action verifies that the DPC of the incoming MSU is a valid PC. PRR stop action **328** examines the incoming MSU to determine whether presence registration service is required. If the incoming MSU is identified as being an ISUP IAM type message, PRR stop action **328** encapsulates a copy of the ISUP IAM message within an SCCP formatted MSU, as indicated in step **ST6**. Such SCCP encapsulation is effectively achieved by adding essential SCCP message leading and trailing bit sequences to the base bit sequence that comprises the ISUP IAM MSU, as generally illustrated in Figure 6. Thus, an SCCP type encapsulated MSU is created which envelops or contains an ISUP type MSU. Subsequent to this encapsulation, the incoming message no longer appears or is treated as an ISUP IAM message within the presence registration and routing node **300**, but is instead processed internally as an SCCP type SS7 message.--

The paragraph beginning at page 21, line 8, has been amended as follows:

--However, in the case where an incoming ISUP MSU satisfies the **ST5** criteria, SCCP encapsulation of the ISUP MSU occurs and the resulting encapsulated MSU is directed to HMDC process **330 (ST7)**, where SCCP type processing is performed. In the example shown in Figure 3, HMDC process **330** examines the message packet and determines that the DPC and Subsystem Number (SSN) of the SCCP packet is the [PC] point code of the presence registration and routing node. Consequently, further processing of the SCCP MSU within the routing node is assumed to be necessary, and the packet is passed to [the] HMDT process **332**. [The] HMDT process **332** examines the Service Indicator (SI) field of the encapsulated MSU, which indicates that the encapsulating packet is of an SCCP type. As such, HMDT process **332** places the encapsulated SCCP MSU on high

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speed IMT bus **310** for transport to PRM **340** and subsequent presence registration service.--

The paragraph beginning at page 21, line 21, has been amended as follows:

--Referring to Figure [5b] 5(B), in step **ST8**, the encapsulated SCCP MSU is received and examined by SCRC process **342** that is resident on PRM **340**. SCRC process **342** examines the message, determines that presence registration service is indicated, and forwards the encapsulated MSU to the PRMG process **344**, as indicated by step **ST9**. In step **ST10**, PRMG process **344** extracts the ISUP IAM MSU from the SCCP envelope and determines that the ISUP MSU requires the generation of a SIP-formatted presence registration message (**ST11**). The ISUP IAM MSU is subsequently directed to SIP application **348** for further processing (**ST12**). SIP application **348** examines the ISUP IAM MSU and, using information contained within the MSU, generates a SIP-formatted presence registration message (**ST13**).--

The paragraph beginning at page 22, line 7, has been amended as follows:

--With SIP processing complete, the SIP-formatted presence registration message is passed to HMRT process **350**. HMRT process **350** determines to which ADCM card the SIP registration message packet should be routed for subsequent outbound transmission (**ST14**). In this case, the HMRT process **350** determines that the desired outbound signaling link associated with the routing of the SIP registration message is located on ADCM **360**. Consequently, the SIP message packet is internally routed across the IMT bus **310** to LIM **360**, where it is [generally] received by [the] I/O queue [process] **362** (**ST15**). Eventually, the modified message packet is passed from [the] I/O queue **362** [on] to the IP Level 2 and Level 1 processes **364** and **366**, respectively (**ST16**). Once again, IP level 1 and 2 processes **366** and **364**, respectively, provide the facilities necessary to send and receive digital data over a particular physical media / physical interface, as well as to provide error detection / correction and sequenced delivery of all IP message packets transmitted into the IP network. As indicated in step **ST17**, the SIP-formatted presence registration message is then transmitted into an IP network for ultimate delivery to and use by a presence database system.--

The paragraph beginning at page 22, line 24, has been amended as follows:

--It will be appreciated that the registration message generation methodology shown in Figure 4 is fundamentally similar to the process indicated in Figures [5a and 5b] 5(A) and 5(B). The primary difference involves processing variations that result from the handling of SS7 ISUP versus SS7 TCAP type messages. Most notably, since a TCAP message is, in fact, also an SCCP message, there is no need to directly encapsulate or copy and encapsulate the incoming TCAP message. Instead the TCAP message is simply directed from the inbound LIM 320 to the associated PRM 340 via the high speed IMT Bus 310, in much the same manner as the SCCP encapsulated ISUP IAM described in detail above. As such, Figure 7 presents a flow chart of the major steps associated with the processing of a TCAP-type presence registration request message, which may be used in conjunction with the schematic diagram shown in Figure 4 to better understand the TCAP based presence registration message generation methodology.--

The paragraph beginning at page 24, line 16, has been amended as follows:

--In step **ST6**, the TCAP MSU is received and examined by SCRC process **342** that is resident on PRM 340. SCRC process **342** examines the message, determines that presence registration service is indicated, and forwards the TCAP MSU to the PRMG process **344**. As indicated in step **ST7**, the content of the TCAP message is examined to determine whether the TCAP presence registration request requires the generation of a SIP-formatted message. In this example, it is assumed that the TCAP registration request message requires a SIP-formatted response and, as such, is subsequently directed to SIP application **348** for further processing. SIP application **348** examines the TCAP MSU and, using information contained within the MSU, generates a SIP-formatted presence registration message (**ST8**).--

The paragraph beginning at page 25, line 3, has been amended as follows:

--With SIP processing complete, the SIP-formatted presence registration message is passed to HMRT process **350**. HMRT process **350** determines to which ADCM card the SIP registration message packet should be routed for subsequent outbound transmission (**ST9**). In this case, the HMRT process **350** determines that

the desired outbound signaling link associated with the routing of the SIP registration message is located on ADCM 360. Consequently, the SIP message packet is internally routed across the IMT bus 310 to LIM 360, where it is [generally] received by [the] I/O queue [process] 362 (ST10). Eventually, the modified message packet is passed from [the] I/O queue 362 on to the IP Level 2 and Level 1 processes 364 and 366, respectively (ST11). As indicated in step ST12, the SIP-formatted presence registration message is then transmitted into an IP network for ultimate delivery to and use by a presence database system.—

The paragraph beginning at page 25, line 16, has been amended as follows:

—Shown in Figures 8, 9 and 10 are simplified network diagrams that illustrate example implementations of the embodiments described above. More particularly, Figure 8 illustrates an implementation of the presence registration and routing node 300 of the present invention in a mobile or wireless telecommunications environment, generally indicated by the numeral 400. Network 400 includes a mobile subscriber 402, a base station complex 404, a mobile switching center (MSC) 406, a home location register (HLR) 408, and a presence server 410. It will be appreciated that the message flows shown in Figure 8 indicate that the presence registration and routing node 300 formulates and transmits a presence registration message 416 in response to the receipt of a location update message 412 that is sent from the MSC 406. Those skilled in the art of wireless telecommunications will appreciate that an MSC performs a number of functions in a wireless network, including the formulation and routing of signaling messages. In the example shown in Figure 8, the location update signaling message used by the presence registration and routing node 300 to trigger the presence registration message 416 is destined for [the] HLR node 408. In such a wireless scenario, the presence registration message 416 could be formulated and transmitted by the presence registration and routing node in response to a mobile location update message associated with the registration of a wireless customer in a particular cell or service area. Once again, those skilled in the art of wireless or mobile telecommunications will appreciate that wireless or mobile signaling messages are generated and transmitted within a wireless network in

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response to the powering-up or turning-on of a customer's wireless phone, as well as in response to inter-cell movement of a mobile subscriber during the course of a mobile call. As such, the presence registration and routing node of the present invention facilitates a method of presence registration that is completely transparent to the cell or mobile phone user.--

The paragraph beginning at page 26, line 19, has been amended as follows:

--Figure 9 illustrates an implementation of [the] presence registration and routing node 300 of the present invention in a wired telecommunications environment, generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 420. Network 420 includes a wireline subscriber 422, an end office (EO) 424, and a presence server 426. It will be appreciated that the message flows shown in Figure 9 indicate that [the] presence registration and routing node 300 formulates and transmits a presence registration message 434 in response to the receipt of an ISUP call signaling message from [the] EO 424. More particularly, [the] presence registration message 434 is generated in response to the receipt of an ISUP Initial Address Message (IAM) message 428. Those skilled in the art SS7 signaling will appreciate that an ISUP IAM message is the first in a sequence of ISUP formatted SS7 call control signaling messages that are required to complete a phone call in the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). As such, it will be appreciated that in the scenario illustrated in Figure 9, [the] presence registration message 434 is formulated in response to an attempt by [the] wireline subscriber 422 to place a telephone call. As presence registration message generation is triggered by an ISUP IAM message, it will be appreciated by those skilled in the art of SS7 telecommunications that completion of an attempted telephone call is not required in order for a presence registration message to be generated and transmitted to a presence server. Thus, any call attempts by [the] wireline subscriber 422 will effectively register the subscriber's presence with [the] presence server 426 via [the] presence registration and routing node 300 of the present invention. It will also be appreciated from Figure 9, that [the] triggering ISUP IAM message 428 is subsequently routed [as normal, on] to a destination address specified in the message.--

The paragraph beginning at page 27, line 20, has been amended as follows:

—Shown in Figure 10 is a variation of the scenario that was illustrated in Figure 9 whereby an SS7 signaling message used to trigger the formulation and subsequent transmission of a presence registration message is comprised of a TCAP-type message instead of an ISUP-type message. Shown in Figure 10 is an implementation of [the] presence registration and routing node **300** of the present invention in a wired telecommunications environment, generally indicated by [the] reference numeral **440**. Network **440** includes a wireline subscriber **442**, an end office (EO) **444**, and a presence server **446**. In the particular embodiment shown in Figure 10, it is assumed that the wireline subscriber **442** indirectly initiates a TCAP message **448** by dialing “*88” or a similar code on a telephone keypad. Once again, those skilled in the art of SS7 telecommunication networks will appreciate that generation of such TCAP messages is accomplished by an End Office (EO) or Service Switching Point (SSP) in response to the “*88” keystrokes, as generally indicated in Figure 10. As such, by dialing “*88” [the] wireline subscriber **442** is effectively manually registering [their] his or her presence with the presence server via the generation of the TCAP message **448**, which in turn causes the generation of a presence registration message **450** by [the] presence registration and routing node **300** of the present invention.—

The paragraph beginning at page 28, line 16, has been amended as follows:

—The embodiments of the present invention described in detail above can be easily extended to include a presence registration and routing node that is capable of maintaining a presence database system. One embodiment of such a presence registration and routing node is illustrated in Figure 11, and generally indicated by [the] reference numeral **500**. It will be appreciated that in the particular embodiment presently contemplated, presence registration messages are not formulated and routed from the node[, but]. [instead] Instead presence registration takes place at or within the node. That is, in the embodiment of the present invention shown in Figure 11 and [generally discussed] described below, the functionality of a presence server is [generally] included within [the] presence registration and routing node **500**.—

The paragraph beginning at page 29, line 3, has been amended as follows:

--With particular regard to the embodiment illustrated in Figure 11 and in a manner similar to the embodiment described above, it will be appreciated that presence registration and routing node **500** includes a high speed Interprocessor Message Transport (IMT) communications bus **310**. Communicatively coupled to IMT bus **310** are a number of distributed processing modules or cards including[;] a pair of Maintenance and Administration Subsystem Processors (MASPs) **312**, an SS7 capable Link Interface Module (LIM) **320**, an IP capable Advanced Database Communication Module (ADCM) **360**, and a Presence Database Module (PDM) **502**. These modules are physically connected to the IMT bus **310** such that signaling and other type messages may be routed internally between all active cards or modules. For simplicity of illustration, only a single LIM **320**, ADCM **360**, and PDM **502** are included in Figure 11. However, it should be appreciated that the distributed, multi-processor architecture of the presence registration and routing node **500** facilitates the deployment of multiple LIM, ADCM, PDM, and other cards, all of which could be simultaneously connected to the IMT bus **310**.--

The paragraph beginning at page 29, line 24, has been amended as follows:

--Once again, it will be appreciated that LIM **320** is comprised of a number of sub-component processes including, but not limited to[;] an SS7 MTP level 1 process **322**, an SS7 MTP level 2 process **324**, an I/O buffer or queue **325**, a gateway screening (GWS) process **326**, a Presence Server Request (PRR) stop action process **328**, an SS7 MTP level 3 layer HMDC process **330**, and an HMDT process **332**. MTP level 1 and 2 processes **322** and **324**, respectively, provide the facilities necessary to send and receive digital data over a particular physical media / physical interface, as well as to provide error detection / correction and sequenced delivery of all SS7 message packets. I/O queue **325** provides for temporary buffering of incoming and outgoing signaling message packets. GWS process **326** is responsible for examining the incoming signaling message and determining which, if any, of the provisioned stop actions are applicable. PRR stop action process **328** is responsible for making a copy of, and subsequently encapsulating, an incoming SS7 ISDN User

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Part (ISUP) IAM signaling message packet within an SS7 Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) formatted packet. It should be appreciated that PRR stop action process **328** could also be configured to simply encapsulate the original incoming SS7 ISUP IAM signaling message, without making a copy. MTP level 3 HMDC process **330** receives signaling messages from the lower processing layers and performs a discrimination function, effectively determining whether an incoming SS7 message packet requires internal processing or is simply to be through switched. For instance, in the case of an SS7 TCAP message associated with presence registration or an SCCP encapsulated ISUP IAM message, HMDC process **330** would determine that the message should be internally routed for further processing. [The] HMDT process **332** manages or directs the internal routing of SS7 message packets that require additional processing prior to final routing. Once again, it should be appreciated that a LIM card may contain more functional processes than those described above. The above discussion is limited to LIM functionality associated with the basic processing of in-bound signaling messages.--

The paragraph beginning at page 31, line 15, has been amended as follows:

--The processes explicitly shown on [the] out-bound ADCM **360** include an I/O queue **362** and IP level 1 and 2 processes **366** and **364**, respectively. I/O queue **362** facilitates temporary buffering of incoming and outgoing signaling message packets, while IP addressing operations are performed by [the] IP level 1 and 2 processes **366** and **364**, respectively.--

The paragraph beginning at page 32, line 1, has been amended as follows:

--In general, a PDM card includes the database and database control processes necessary to facilitate the presence registration and query handling functionality of the contemplated embodiment of the present invention. [The] PDM **502** shown in Figure 11 is comprised, in part, of an SCCP subsystem controller known as a Signaling Connection Routing Controller (SCRC) process **504**, a Presence Database Manager (PDMG) process **510**, and a number of Presence Database Interface (PDI) Applications generally indicated by the numeral **512**. Included among [the] PDI Applications **512** are session initiation protocol (SIP)

application process **518**, IMPP application process **514**, and presence protocol process **519**. [The] SCRC process **504** is responsible for discrimination of signaling messages and subsequent distribution of these signaling messages to an appropriate higher processing level application or function. In the configuration shown in Figure 11, the next highest processing level is represented by [the] PDMG process **510**. PDMG process **510** is generally responsible for determining which of the provisioned protocol-specific PDI Applications **512** is required process the incoming message packet. For instance, if the incoming presence registration packet contained a TCAP or SCCP-encapsulated IMPP message, PDMG process **510** would determine that [the] provisioned PDI application **514** was required for successful processing. As will be appreciated from Figure 11, a number of PDI applications **512** may be simultaneously provisioned on a single PDMG card. These protocol-specific PDI applications may be configured such that each application is capable of receiving presence registration or query messages that are formatted in different protocols including, but not limited to, SIP, IMPP, and the presence protocol. Furthermore, these PDI applications **512** are also capable of generating or formatting protocol-specific presence service related response messages. Such a presence service response message might include, but is not limited to, a message that provides presence status information for a specific user in response to a presence status query. This particular scenario is specifically illustrated in Figure 11, where the presence status query packet assumes the form of an SS7 TCAP-encapsulated IMPP query message and the subsequent presence status response is contained within a SIP formatted message.--

The paragraph beginning at page 33, line 9, has been amended as follows:

--Once again, while any number or variety of PDI applications may be provisioned on a single PDM card, only [the] IMPP, SIP, and presence protocol PDI applications **514**, **518**, and **519**, respectively, are described herein. SIP PDI application **518** [essentially] contains the logic necessary to process incoming SIP presence messages and construct outgoing SIP presence response messages. Similarly, IMPP PDI application **514** contains the logic necessary to process incoming

IMPP formatted presence messages and construct outgoing IMPP formatted presence response messages. Presence PDI application 519 contains the logic necessary to process incoming presence query messages formatted according to the presence protocol and construct outgoing presence response messages formatted according to the presence protocol.--

The paragraph beginning at page 34, line 4, has been amended as follows:

--With particular regard to the scenario generally illustrated in Figure 11, it is assumed that an incoming TCAP-encapsulated IMPP formatted presence query message is received at the inbound LIM module 320 (ST1). Once again, in steps ST2 and ST3, the incoming TCAP-encapsulated IMPP formatted presence query message is received and processed by the MTP Level 1 and 2 processes 322 and 324, respectively. With MTP Level 1 and 2 processing complete, the signaling message packet is temporarily buffered in the I/O queue 325 before being passed up the stack to the MTP Level 3 Gateway Screening (GWS) process 326. As indicated in step ST4, GWS process 326 examines the incoming TCAP presence query message and determines not only whether the message is to be allowed into the switch for further processing, but also which, if any, of the provisioned stop actions are applicable to the incoming message. In the scenario shown in Figure 11, GWS process 326 examines the incoming TCAP-encapsulated IMPP presence query message and determines that the message is permitted to enter the switch. Furthermore, upon examination of the Originating Point Code (OPC), Destination Point Code (DPC) and Service Indicator Octet (SIO) fields contained in the MTP routing layer, it is determined that the message does not require additional processing by [the] PRR stop action 328. As such, the TCAP MSU is then routed directly to HMDC process 330 where SCCP type processing is performed (ST5). In the example shown in Figure 11, HMDC process 330 examines the message packet and determines that the DPC and Subsystem Number (SSN) of the TCAP packet is the PC and SSN of the internal presence server database system that is located on PDM card 502. Consequently, further processing of the TCAP MSU within the routing node is assumed to be necessary, and the packet is passed to the HMDT

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process **332**. [The] HMDT process **332** examines the Service Indicator (SI) field of the TCAP MSU, which indicates that the packet is of an SCCP type. As such, HMDT process **332** places the TCAP MSU on high speed IMT bus **310** for transport to PDM **502** and subsequent presence database service.--

The paragraph beginning at page 35, line 9, has been amended as follows:

--In step **ST6**, the TCAP MSU is received and examined by SCRC process **504** that is resident on PDM **502**. SCRC process **504** examines the message, determines that presence database service is indicated, and forwards the TCAP MSU to [the] PDMG process **510**. As indicated in step **ST7**, the message packet is examined to determine the protocol of the presence related message. In this case, the protocol of the presence related message encapsulated within the TCAP packet is IMPP. Next, in step **ST8**, the variety or type of presence service associated with the message is evaluated. Such general presence message types or varieties might include, but are not limited to, query and registration type messages.--

The paragraph beginning at page 37, line 8, has been amended as follows:

--With particular regard to the embodiment illustrated in Figure 13 and in a manner similar to the embodiment described above, it will be appreciated that presence registration and routing node **600** includes a high speed Interprocessor Message Transport (IMT) communications bus **310**. Communicatively coupled to IMT bus **310** are a number of distributed processing modules or cards including: a pair of Maintenance and Administration Subsystem Processors (MASPs) **312**, an SS7 capable Link Interface Module (LIM) **320**, an IP capable Advanced Database Communication Module (ADCM) **360**, and an External Presence Database Module (EPDM) **700**. As further indicated in Figure 13, EPDM **700** is connected to an external Presence Database Server platform **800** via a high-speed Ethernet-type connection **802**. In this embodiment, external Presence Database Server platform **800** includes the actual Presence Database entity **516**. With exception of [the] EPDM card **700** and external Presence Database Server **800**, all other functional and operational aspects of the embodiment shown in Figure 13 are identical to that of the embodiment shown in Figure 11 and [generally] described above.--

The paragraph beginning at page 38, line 1, has been amended as follows:

—In general, an EPDM card **700** includes the database and database control processes necessary to facilitate the presence registration and query handling functionality of the contemplated embodiment of the present invention. [The] EPDM **700** shown in Figure 13 is comprised, in part, of an SCCP subsystem controller known as a Signaling Connection Routing Controller (SCRC) process **504**, a Presence Database Manager (PDMG) process **510**, and a number of Presence Database Interface (PDI) [Applications] applications generally indicated by the numeral **512**. Included among [the] PDI [Applications] applications **512** are a session initiation protocol (SIP) application process **518**, an IMPP application process **514**, and a presence protocol process **519**. [The] SCRC process **504** is responsible for discrimination of signaling messages and subsequent distribution of these signaling messages to an appropriate higher processing level application or function. In the configuration shown in Figure 13, the next highest processing level is represented by [the] PDMG process **510**. PDMG process **510** is generally responsible for determining which of the provisioned protocol-specific PDI [Applications] applications **512** is required process the incoming message packet. [The] PDI applications **512** are capable of generating or formatting protocol-specific presence service related response messages. Such a presence service response message might include, but is not limited to, a message that provides presence status information for a specific user in response to a presence status query.—

The paragraph beginning at page 39, line 10, has been amended as follows:

—Shown in Figure 14 is another embodiment of a presence registration and routing node of the present invention, generally indicated by [the] reference numeral **900**. With particular regard to the embodiment illustrated in Figure 14 and in a manner similar to the embodiment described above, it will be appreciated that presence registration and routing node **900** includes a high speed Interprocessor Message Transport (IMT) communications bus **310**. As in the previously described embodiments, communicatively coupled to IMT bus **310** are a number of distributed processing modules or cards including[;] a pair of Maintenance and Administration

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Subsystem Processors (MASPs), an SS7 capable Link Interface Module (LIM) 320, and an IP capable Advanced Database Communication Module (ADCM) 360, and a Presence Registration Module (PRM) 340. Further included in [the] presence registration and routing node 900 is an accounting and billing subsystem which is comprised of an accounting subsystem interface module (ASIM), generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 910[,] and an accounting server platform (ASP), generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 920. It will be appreciated that the combination of ASIM card 910 and ASP accounting server 920 includes the database and control processes necessary to achieve the accounting and billing functionality of the present invention. From a practical implementation standpoint, ASP 920 could assume the form of a Sun Workstation or similar type computing platform. It will be further appreciated that an entire message accounting subsystem could also be integrated within a presence routing and registration node.--

The paragraph beginning at page 40, line 7, has been amended as follows:

--[The] ASIM card 910 shown in Figure 14 includes a Signaling Connection Control Part (SCCP) subsystem 912 that is responsible for receiving and preliminary processing of incoming SCCP encapsulated accounting message packets. ASIM card 910 also includes an SCCP controller known as a Signaling Connection Routing Controller (SCRC) process 914 and a high-speed Ethernet Controller (EC) process 916. Once again, as described above, [the] SCCP subsystem 912 is responsible for receiving and preliminary processing of incoming SCCP encapsulated message packets, while [the] SCRC process 914 is responsible for discrimination and subsequent distribution of messages based on information contained in an SCCP packet. In the case of ASIM card 910, messages that satisfy the SCRC discrimination criteria are distributed or directed to [the] high-speed Ethernet Controller process 916. EC process 916 is in turn responsible for controlling the process of communicating messages, via an Ethernet connection to and from [the] associated ASP server 920. More particularly, ASP server 920 includes a corresponding high-speed Ethernet Controller process 922 that serves as the communications interface between ASIM card 910 and an on-board accounting

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server manager (ASM) process 924. ASM process 924 is responsible for the de-capsulation or removal of the SCCP envelope that contains the accounting message. The de-capsulated accounting message is then passed to an adjacent usage and measurements process 926 where usage [and] measurement statistics are created and stored in a usage [and] measurements database (UMD) process 930, such as that shown in Figure 15.--

The paragraph beginning at page 41, line 6, has been amended as follows:

--Usage [and] measurements statistics produced by such a process could include, but are not limited to, peg counts of messages received from a specific network address, a specific service provider, a specific service user, a specific IP socket, or a specific signaling link. Furthermore, information specific to the type of service requested, calling and called party information, and other information associated with a communication that could be useful in generating a bill or invoice may also be stored in a UMD. As shown in sample UMD process 930, in one simplified embodiment, each communication is identified by a transaction ID, and certain predetermined information associated with a communication can be stored in the database. It will be appreciated that the information contained in a UMD database could be significantly more or less detailed than that indicated in the example shown in Figure 15.--

The paragraph beginning at page 43, line 20, has been amended as follows:

--Figure 16 illustrates yet another embodiment of a presence registration and routing node of the present invention, which extends the integrated accounting and billing subsystem concept to the routing node previously presented in Figure 11. This new embodiment of a presence server and routing node is generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 950. With particular regard to the embodiment illustrated in Figure 16 and in a manner similar to those embodiments described above, it will be appreciated that presence registration and routing node 950 includes a high speed Interprocessor Message Transport (IMT) communications bus 310. Communicatively coupled to IMT bus 310 are a number of distributed processing modules or cards including[;] a pair of Maintenance and Administration Subsystem Processors

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(MASPs), an SS7 capable Link Interface Module (LIM) 320, and an IP capable Advanced Database Communication Module (ADCM) 360, and a Presence Registration Module (PRM) 340. Further included in the presence registration and routing node 950 is an accounting and billing subsystem which is comprised of an accounting subsystem interface module (ASIM), generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 910, and an accounting server platform (ASP), generally indicated by [the] reference numeral 920. Again, it will be appreciated that the combination of ASIM card 910 and ASP accounting server 920 includes the database and control processes necessary to achieve the accounting and billing functionality of the present invention.--

The paragraph beginning at page 44, line 16, has been amended as follows:

--In the particular embodiment shown, LIM card 320 includes a Presence Registration Request (PRR) stop action process 952, that is functionally similar to [the] PRR process 902 described above. PRR 952 is adapted to generate[,] and SCCP-encapsulate[,] an accounting message that is subsequently passed via IMT bus 310 to ASIM 910 of the accounting and billing subsystem, where accounting and billing subsystem processing occurs in a manner similar to that described above.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for updating presence information regarding an end user in a presence server database based on information derived from a telephony-related action, the method comprising:
 - (a) receiving a signaling system seven (SS7) message in response to a telephony-related action performed by an end user;
 - (b) determining, based on the SS7 message, whether presence registration processing is required for the end user;

[(b)](c)in response to [receiving the SS7 message, formulating an internet protocol (IP) message for updating presence information regarding the end user managed by a presence server]determining that presence

registration processing is required for the end user, automatically generating a presence registration message including presence information indicating to other end users a communication medium for contacting the end user using a messaging protocol and indicating that the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages via the communications medium; and

[(c)](d)transmitting the [IP]presence registration message to the presence server over an IP network.

6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [formulating an IP message includes formulating]automatically generating a presence registration message includes automatically generating a presence protocol message.
7. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [formulating an IP message includes formulating]automatically generating a presence registration message includes automatically generating a session initiation protocol (SIP) message.
8. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [formulating an IP message includes formulating]automatically generating a presence registration message includes automatically generating an instant messaging and presence protocol (IMPP) message.
11. (Amended) A method for processing a query to a presence server database, the method comprising:
 - (a) receiving, at presence registration and routing node, an IP message for determining presence information for [an entity]a first end user, the presence information indicating a communication medium for contacting the first end user using a messaging protocol and the fact that the first end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages via the communications medium;
 - (b) formulating a query to a presence database for obtaining the presence information;
 - (c) obtaining the presence information from the presence database; and

- (d) forwarding the presence information to [an] a second end user, wherein the second end user uses the presence information to determine the appropriate communication medium for contacting the first end user using the messaging protocol and the availability of the first end user to receive messaging protocol communications via the communications medium.
- 14. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein forwarding the presence information to [an] a second end user includes forwarding a presence protocol message to the second end user.
- 15. (Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein forwarding a presence protocol message includes forwarding a notify message to the second end user.
- 22. (Amended) A presence registration and routing node for updating presence information regarding an end user in a presence server database, the presence registration and routing node comprising:
 - (a) a communication module for receiving an SS7 message [from an SS7 network] relating to an end user and for determining whether presence registration processing is required for the SS7 message; and
 - (b) a presence server message generator for, if the communication module determines that presence registration processing is required, for receiving a copy of the SS7 message and for automatically generating a [presence-server-compatible] presence registration message [for updating presence information regarding an end user in a presence server database, based on the SS7 message] including presence information indicating to other end users a communication medium for contacting the end user and the fact that the end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages via the communications medium.
- 23. (Amended) The presence registration and routing node of claim 22 comprising an advanced database communication module for encapsulating the

- [presence-server-compatible]presence registration message in an IP packet and transmitting the IP packet to a presence server over an IP network.
24. (Amended) The presence registration and routing node of claim 22 wherein the [presence-server-compatible]presence registration message is a session initiation protocol (SIP) message.
25. (Amended) The presence registration and routing node of claim 22 wherein the [presence-server-compatible]presence registration message is a presence protocol message.
26. (Amended) The presence registration and routing node of claim 22 wherein the [presence-server-compatible]presence registration message is an instant messaging and presence protocol (IMPP) message.
29. (Amended) [The] A presence registration and routing node [of claim 22] for updating presence information regarding an end user in a presence server database, the presence registration and routing node comprising:
- (a) a communication module for receiving an SS7 message from an SS7 network; and
- (b) a presence server message generator for generating a presence-server-compatible message for updating presence information regarding an end user in a presence server database, based on the SS7 message, wherein the SS7 message is a message from a mobile switching center (MSC).
35. (Amended) A presence registration and routing node for providing presence information regarding an entity, the presence registration and routing node comprising:
- (a) an advanced database communications module for receiving an IP-encapsulated presence-server-compatible message for determining presence information for [an entity]a first end user, the presence information indicating a communication medium for contacting the first end user using a messaging protocol and the fact that the first end user

is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages via the communications medium; and

- (b) a presence server message processor operably associated with the advanced database communications module for forwarding the presence-server-compatible message to a presence server for determining the presence information, wherein the presence server stores the presence information for the first end user and responds to the presence-server-compatible message, thereby informing a second end user of the appropriate communications medium for contacting the first end user using messaging protocol communications and whether the first end user is currently available to receive messaging protocol messages via the communications medium.

The following new claims have been added:

61. (New) The method of claim 1 comprising routing the SS7 message to its intended destination.
62. (New) The presence registration and routing node of claim 22 wherein the communication module is adapted to route the SS7 message to its intended destination.
63. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony related action comprises activation of the end user's mobile telephone and wherein the presence information indicates that the end user is currently reachable to receive messaging protocol communications via the end user's mobile telephone.
64. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the telephony related action comprises entering a predetermined code via the end user's wireline telephone and wherein the presence information indicates that the end user is currently reachable via the end user's wireline telephone.